**Modernisation of Indian Rare Earths Ltd.**

*2. SHRI M. VINCENT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present stage of modernisation and expansion of the Indian Rare Earths Ltd. at Manavalakuruchi ;

(b) what was the total amount allocated during this year for this purpose; and

(c) what amount was spent during the last year for this purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) Work on the Concentrate Upgrading Plant and modernisation of Dry Mill is in progress and is expected to be completed by April. 1990 and December 1990 respectively.

(b) The allocations for the year 1989-90 are as under:

| | (R lakhs) |
|---|---|
| 1. Concentrate Upgrading Plant. | 275 |
| 2. Modernisation of Dry Mill . | 350 |
| TOTAL | 625 |

(c) An amount of Rs. 9 lakhs was spent during the year 1988-89 on the above projects.

**Agitation by the extra-departmental employees**

*3. SHRIBASUDEBMOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that extra-departmental employees have been agitating since long for better scales of pay and other facilities as available to the regular employees;

(b) if so, what action Government have taken in the matter;

(c) if, no action has been taken, what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) what is the total number of extra-departmental employees working all over the country, till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) to (d) Off and on, the ED employees have been agitating for better scales of pay and other service conditions. In 1984, the Government appointted a Committee under the chairmanship of Shri R.R. Savoor to go into various problems of ED staff including allowances, etc. who submitted its recommendations in 1986. On the basis of the recommendations, allowances of EDAs have been enhanced and other facilities also granted. It may be added that the EDAs are not regular employees of the Department, but part-time workers having their main other source of income unlike regular Government employees. They are governed by a separate set of rules. The nature of their employment does not entitle them to be treated as regular employees Savoor Committee has also recommended to continue ED system in the present form. The number of ED employees working as on 31-3-89 was 2,98,320.

**Termination of services of junior resident doctors in Delhi**

*4. DR.RATNAKAR PANDEY: SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI:

Will the Minister of HEALTH ANDFAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of junior resident doctors serving to various